# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# DEFENCE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1090
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2002
INCIDENT OF MINE BLASTS ALONG BORDER
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**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether a number of incidents of mine blasts have come to light at the Indo-Pak border while transporting them or laying them killing a number of soldiers and others recently;

(b) if so, the number of soldiers/civilians killed/injured in these incidents;

(c) whether these incidents had been enquired into;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check reoccurrence of such incidents?

## Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) & (b): The details of casualties due to mine blasts during the last three months as per the reports available with the Army HQrs are:-

(1) Fatal

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (i) | Army | 50 |
| (ii) | Civilians | 07 |

(2) Non-Fatal

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (i) | Army | 95 |
| (ii) | Civilians | 23 |

(c) & (d): Initial high level inquiries revealed that the mine laying operations were carried out in adverse climatic and terrain conditions like night laying, dense fog etc. Due to such constraints certain accidents could possibly be ascribed to human error. In certain cases, mines and fuzes held in inventory for a long period, did not perform satisfactorily.

(e) The Government have initiated steps to ensure that new mines and fuzes are introduced to replace the old inventories.